## U.S. Border Patrol has released thousands of migrants on San Diego's streets, taxing charities

## By ELLIOT SPAGAT Associated Press

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Over five years, the largest U.S. city on the Mexican border developed a well-oiled system to shelter asylum-seekers. That system is being tested like never before as U.S. Customs and Border Protection releases migrants to the streets of California's second-largest city because shelters are full. Since Sept. 13, about 13,000 have been dropped at transit stations with notices to appear in immigration court at their final destinations in the U.S., with about 500 more arriving daily.

Migrant aid groups blame a mix of circumstances for the shelter crunch: reduced government funding; CBP's practice of sending migrants from Texas and Arizona to be processed in San Diego; and a surge in illegal crossings. Last week, President Joe Biden's administration advanced plans for a border wall in Texas' Rio Grande Valley and said it would resume deportation flights to Venezuela.

Before they are released in San Diego, some migrants being dropped off have been waiting between a double-layer border wall or camping under Border Patrol watch in remote mountains east of the city. CBP closed a major pedestrian border crossing from Tijuana, Mexico, on Sept. 14 and assigned more officials to processing migrants.



Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., speaks to the media about efforts to pass appropriations bills and avert a looming government shutdown, at the Capitol in Washington, Friday, Sept. 29, 2023.

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## U.S. Border Patrol has released thousands of migrants on San Diego's streets, taxing charities

#### **Continued from Front**

"Many do not know where they are, that this is San Diego, this is (the) San Diego region, the nearest airport is San Diego and how to get to their final destination. That is what we're trying to provide support with," said Paulina Reyes-Perrariz, managing attorney for Immigrant Defenders Law Center's cross-border initia-

Illegal crossings topped a daily average of more than 8,000 last month after a lull following the start of new asylum restrictions in May had diminishing impact and people from dozens of countries, notably Venezuela, were drawn by prospects of jobs and safety.

Similar to other U.S. border cities, about 95% of migrants in San Diego quickly move to other parts of the country. That's a sharp contrast to cities far from the border, such as New York and Chicago. But the constant churn of exhausted, disoriented migrants from more than 100 countries has created other strains that the San Diego County government calls "an unprecedented humanitarian crisis."

Last week, after a community recreation center could no longer handle the flow of migrants, the Border Patrol resumed drop-offs



Incoming House Majority Whip Steve Scalise of La., left, confers with then incoming House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy of Calif., on Capitol Hill in Washington, June 24, 2014, as they leave Republican National Committee headquarters following a news conference.

**Associated Press** 

at a transit center. Arrivals from China, India, Brazil, Ecuador, Colombia and many west African countries filled a parking lot to charge phones, eat, use the bathroom and wait for free shuttle buses to the airport. "Is California far from here?" an Eritrean man Shelters still accommoasked volunteers.

Shuttles were announced in Spanish and Arabic. Al Otro Lado, a group aiding migrants, is seeking volunteers who speak Russian, Pashto, Creole, French, Portuguese, Amharic, Hindi,

and Vietnamese.

"It's a brief moment of intervention before they can move on to be connected with their loved ones," said Kate Clark, senior director for immigrant services at Jewish Family Service of San Diego.

date families with young children, members of the LGBTQ+ community, the elderly and medically frail. The drop-offs are largely for single adults.

Since 2018, Jewish Family Service of San Diego and have helped more than 430,000 migrants in the region.

But Catholic Charities of San Diego recently halved capacity at the two hotels where it houses migrants to about 800 people, who stay an average of less than two days, said CEO Vino Pajanor. "The major issue" is less federal funding as San Diego competes with New York and other cities for support to aid migrants, he said.

Jewish Family Service has maintained shelter capac-Mandarin, Somali, Turkish Catholic Charities together ity at about 950 at a hotel

and another large facility. CBP did not respond to questions about the dropoffs. The Department of Homeland Security said last month that it has given \$790 million for migrant shelters this year and asked Congress for an additional

\$600 million. Aid groups say government support is needed even for the services at the San Diego transit center parking lot, where migrants get travel advice from volunteers over the steady noise of railroad crossing bells and bus horns. County supervisors voted Tuesday to spend \$3 million to to provide airport shuttles, internet connectivity, snacks and other basic services to migrants for three months. The Border Patrol dropped off about 400 migrants by early afternoon one recent day as airport shuttles left about every hour. Overnight camping is prohibited. Migrants with flights within 24 hours are encouraged to wait at the airport. The parking lot was a brief stop for Pedro Cardenas, 30, who was booked on a red-eye flight to Newark,

New Jersey, after a grueling

trip from Guayaquil, Ecuador. Smugglers squeezed

about 14 migrants in a ve-

hicle meant for five, forc-

ing them to go hours with-

out water or a bathroom

## Prosecutors ask judge to take steps to protect potential jurors' identities in 2020 election case



Former President Donald Trump addresses an audience during a campaign event, Monday, Oct. 9, 2023, in Wolfeboro, N.H. **Associated Press** 

#### By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER **Associated Press**

Prosecutors on Tuesday urged the judge overseeing Donald Trump's election interference case in Washington to take steps to protect the identity of prospective jurors, citing the former president's "continued use of social media as a weapon of intimidation in court proceedings." Special counsel Jack Smith's team team wants U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan to issue a written

questionnaire to help the two sides choose potential

But it also would give lawyers early access to those people's identifying information in the case accusing the former Republican president of illegally plotting to overturn his election loss to Democrat Joe Biden. Prosecutors said in court papers they are concerned about what Trump might do with that information, pointing to his recent disparagement of the clerk of

the New York judge overseeing Trump's civil business fraud trial that caused the judge to issue a limited gag

Trump posted a photo of Judge Arthur Engoron's principal law clerk, Allison Greenfield, posing with Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., at a public event, writing that it was "disgraceful" that Greenfield was working with the judge in the courtroom.



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That system is being tested like never before as U.S. Customs and Border Protection releases migrants to the streets of California's second-largest city because shelters are full. Since Sept. 13, about 13,000 have been dropped at transit stations with notices to appear in immigration court at their final destinations in the U.S., with about 500 more arriving daily.

Migrant aid groups blame a mix of circumstances for the shelter crunch: reduced government funding; CBP's practice of sending migrants from Texas and Arizona to be processed in San Diego; and a surge in illegal crossings. Last week, President Joe Biden's administration advanced plans for a border wall in Texas' Rio Grande Valley and said it would resume deportation flights to Venezuela.

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from dozens of countries, notably Venezuela, were drawn by prospects of jobs and safety.

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Shuttles were announced in Spanish and Arabic. Al Otro Lado, a group aiding migrants, is seeking volunteers who speak Russian, Pashto, Creole, French, Portuguese, Amharic, Hindi, Mandarin, Somali, Turkish and Vietnamese.

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Shelters still accommodate families with young children, members of the LGBTQ+ community, the elderly and medically frail. The drop-offs are largely for single adults.

But Catholic Charities of San Diego recently halved for Immigrant Defenders capacity at the two hotels Law Center's cross-border where it houses migrants initiative. Illegal crossings to about 800 people, who topped a daily average of stay an average of less more than 8,000 last month than two days, said CEO after a lull following the Vino Pajanor. "The major isstart of new asylum restric- sue" is less federal funding tions in May had diminish- as San Diego competes cities for support to aid migrants, he said.

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Migrants line up to take a bus to the airport Friday, Oct. 6, 2023, in San Diego. **Associated Press** 

pervisors voted Tuesday to and other basic servicspend \$3 million to to pro- es to migrants for three vide airport shuttles, inter- months.

and bus horns. County su- net connectivity, snacks



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## Deadly bird flu reappears in U.S. commercial poultry flocks in Utah and South Dakota

#### By STEVE KARNOWSKI **Associated Press**

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Highly pathogenic bird flu has made its first appearances in U.S. commercial poultry flocks this season, affecting one turkey farm in South Dakota and one in Utah and raising concerns that more outbreaks could follow.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture reported that avian influenza, which is deadly to commercial poultry, was confirmed in a flock of 47,300 turkeys in Jerauld County, South Dakota, on Oct. 4 and at a farm with 141,800 birds in Utah's Sanpete County last Friday. The outbreaks are the first reported among commercial flocks in the U.S. since the disease struck two turkey farms in the Dakotas in April. Infected flocks are normally destroyed to prevent the flu's spread, and then the farms are decontaminated.

Before last week, the only reports of bird flu in recent months in the U.S. in recent months were sporadic appearances in backyard flocks or among wild birds such as ducks, geese and eagles. While wild birds often show no symptoms of avian influenza, infections in them are a concern to the poultry industry be-



A turkey stands in a barn, Aug. 10, 2015, on a turkey farm near Manson, Iowa.

**Associated Press** 

cause migrating birds can spread the disease to vulnerable commercial flocks. "I don't doubt that we will have more cases," South Dakota State Veterinarian Beth Thompson said in an interview Tuesday. "I would be very pleasantly surprised if we're done because migration is just starting."

Bird flu last year cost U.S. poultry producers nearly 59 million birds across 47 states, including egg-laying chickens and turkeys and chickens raised for meat, making it the country's

deadliest outbreak ever, according to USDA figures. The outbreak caused spikes in egg and turkey prices for consumers and cost the government over \$660 million.

The toll from a 2015 outbreak, deemed the most expensive animal health disaster in U.S. history with over \$1 billion in costs to the government, was nearly 51 million birds in 15 states.

Bird flu infections in humans are relatively rare and aren't considered a food safety risk. But as it hits other species, including some mammals, scientists fear the virus could evolve to spread more easily among people. Cambodia this week reported its third human death from bird flu this year.

Agriculture officials consider this year's cases to be part of last year's outbreak, which reached the U.S. in February 2022 after spreading in Europe. The U.S. has imposed periodic restrictions on poultry imports from Europe to limit the potential for spread. Thompson said

the virus never completely went away, unlike in 2015, and that the version now circulating is essentially the same that spread last year. "Were just encouraging bird owners to make sure they're increasing their biosecurity practices because avian flu is still out there and it's easy to contract," said Bailee Woolstenhulme, spokesperson for the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food.

However, producers have kept their biosecurity tight for several years, and there is little more that farmers can do beyond the steps they have already taken to try to keep the virus out of their flocks.

The main strategy is to prevent droppings of wild birds from being tracked into poultry barns on workers' footwear and clothing, or from hitchhiking on farm equipment, mice, small birds and even dust particles.

This was Utah's first case this year, Woolstenhulme said, but 16 turkey farms, one egg farm and several backyard flocks were affected in the state last year. South Dakota producers lost nearly 4 million birds last year. Iowa, the hardest-hit state, with nearly 16 million birds lost, hasn't recorded a case since March.



speaks during a press conference following the announcement that Utah filed a lawsuit against TikTok at the Utah State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah on Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023.

#### **Associated Press**

#### By MEAD GRUVER **Associated Press**

Utah became the latest state Tuesday to file a lawsuit against TikTok, alleging TikTok lures children into

the company is "baiting" children into addictive and unhealthy social media habits.

## Utah sues TikTok, alleging it lures children into addictive, destructive social media habits

hours of social media use. misrepresents the app's safety and deceptively portrays itself as independent of its Chinese parent company, Utah claims in the lawsuit. "We will not stand by while

these companies fail to take adequate, meaningful action to protect our children. We will prevail in holding social media companies accountable by any means necessary," Republican Gov. Spencer Cox said at a news confer-

ence announcing the lawsuit, which was filed in state court in Salt Lake City.

Arkansas and Indiana have filed similar lawsuits ByteDance, while the U.S. Supreme whether state attempts to regulate social media platforms such as Facebook, X and TikTok violate the Constitution. Public health concerns are cited in the Utah lawsuit. Research has shown that children who spend more than three hours a day on social me-

dia double their risk of poor mental health, including anxiety and depression, the lawsuit alleges.

"TikTok designed and employs algorithm features Court prepares to decide that spoon-feed kids endless, highly curated content from which our children struggle to disengage. Tik-Tok designed these features to mimic a cruel slot machine that hooks kids' attention and does not let them go," Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes said at the news conference.



## Russia is defeated in its bid to regain a seat on the U.N.'s top human rights body

By EDITH M. LEDERER **Associated Press** UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

Russia was defeated in its bid to regain a seat in the U.N.'s premiere human rights body by a significant majority in Tuesday's election in the General Assembly, which voted last year to suspend Moscow after its invasion of Ukraine.

Russia was competing against Albania and Bulgaria for two seats on the Geneva-based Human Rights Council representing the East European regional group.

In the secret ballot vote, Bulgaria got 160 votes, Albania received 123 votes and Russia just 83 votes.

Russia has claimed that it has support from a silent majority, and even though 83 votes came from less than half the 193 U.N. member nations, there is certain to be a concern, especially by Ukraine and its Western allies, that Moscow's support was that high.

The only other competitive race was in the Latin America and Caribbean group where Cuba, Brazil, and the Dominican Republic defeated Peru for three seats. New York-based Human Rights Watch said Cuba didn't deserve a place on the council because of systematic rights violations including harassment, arbitrary detention, and torture of dissidents but Cuba got the highest number of votes of the four countries - 146.

The other closely watched race was in the Asia group where four countries - China, Japan, Kuwait and Indonesia – were candidates for four seats. Some rights groups also campaigned against Beijing and the size of the vote was closely watched.

Indonesia topped the ballot with 186 votes followed by Kuwait with 183 votes and Japan with 175. China was last with 164 votes.

Human Rights Watch said last week that China's rights record should disqualify it from the Human Rights Council. It pointed

to last year's report by the man Rights Council." office of the U.N. human rights commissioner which

"But because two regional slates lacked competi-

Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights, was among



Ukrainian Ambassador to the United Nations Sergiy Kyslytsya, left, shuffles papers as he listens to Vassily Nebenzia, Permanent Representative of Russia to the United Nations, during a meeting of the U.N. Security Council as the war in Ukraine and recent attacks by Russia were discussed Monday, Oct. 9, 2023, at United Nations headquarters.

**Associated Press** 

said China's discriminatory detention of Uvahurs and other mostly Muslim ethnic groups in the western region of Xinjiang may constitute crimes against human-

Two other regional races were also not competitive. For the four African seats, Malawi got 182 votes followed by Ivory Coast with 181 and Ghana with 179. Burundi, whose rights record was also strongly criticized by Human Rights Watch, was last with 168 votes.

The two Western seats were also uncontested, and the Netherlands topped France with 169 votes compared to 153 votes.

General Assembly President Dennis Francis, who announced the results, congratulated the 15 winners, who will join the Human Rights Council on Jan.

Louis Charbonneau, Human Rights Watch's U.N. director, said: "U.N. member states sent a strong signal to Russia's leadership that a government responsible for countless war crimes and crimes against humanity doesn't belong on the Hu-

tion, China and Burundi will be joining the council next year alongside Cuba. Their abysmal rights records should have disqualified them," he said, adding that China's last-place finish suggests that if the Asia race was competitive it would have lost.

But the spotlight in this election was on Russia and its campaign to get back on the Human Rights Council. Moscow's U.N. ambassador, Vassily Nebenzia, accused the United States on Monday of leading a campaign to prevent their return to the council.

"The main phobia of our American colleagues today is electing Russia to the Human Rights Council," Nebenzia told a Security Council meeting called by Ukraine on last week's strike by a Russian missile on a Ukrainian soldier's wake in a small village that killed 52 people.

The United States and others sent letters to many of the 193 members of the General Assembly urging a vote against Russia, according to diplomats. Felice Gaer, director of the American Jewish Committee's the non-government letterwriters also urging Russia's defeat.

At Monday's council meeting, Albania's U.N. Ambassador Ferit Hoxha also urged those who care about human rights and "the credibility of the Human Rights Council and its work" to oppose a country that kills innocent people, destroys civilian infrastructure, ports and grain silos "and then takes pride in doing so."

U.S. deputy ambassador, Robert Wood told the Security Council that Russia's re-election to the Human Rights Council "while it openly continues to commit war crimes and other atrocities would be an ugly stain that would undermine the credibility of the institution and the United Nations."

months after Russia's inva- Nations believes all counsion of Ukraine, the General Assembly voted 93-24 with 58 abstentions on a U.S.-initiated resolution to suspend Russia from the Human Rights Council over allegations that its soldiers in Ukraine engaged in rights violations that the U.S. and

Ukraine called war crimes. Human Rights Watch last week urged U.N. members to deny a seat on the rights council to Russia, saying its forces in Ukraine continue to commit apparent war crimes, including unlawful attacks, and crimes against humanity such as torture and summary executions. President Vladimir Putin and his children's rights commissioner are also sought by the International Criminal Court for the unlawful deportation of Ukrainian children, it said.

The Human Rights Council was created in 2006 to replace a commission discredited because of some members' poor rights records. But the new council soon came to face similar criticism, including that rights abusers sought seats to protect themselves and their allies.

The council reviews the human rights records of all countries periodically, appoints independent investigators to examine and report on issues like torture and situations in countries like North Korea and Iran. It also sends fact-finding missions to investigate rights violations, including Ukraine.

Under the council's rules, its 47 seats are allocated to regional groups to ensure geographical representation. Members are elected yearly by the General Assembly for staggered three-year terms that begin

In last year's election, Venezuela, South Korea and Afghanistan lost contested races, but countries including Vietnam and Sudan, which have been accused of having abysmal human rights records, won seats.

U.N. deputy spokesman In April 2022, less than two Farhan Haq said the United tries elected to the Human Rights Council this year "have therefore earned their right to be there."

> "They then need to show and demonstrate while they're on the Human Rights Council their respect for human rights," he said.



## Canada and the Netherlands take Syria to top UN court. They accuse Damascus of widespread torture

By MIKE CORDER Associated Press

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)** — Syria boycotted a hearing at the United Nations' top court on Tuesday where the Netherlands and Canada accused Damascus of a years-long campaign of "institutionalized" torture against its own people.

The hearing was focused on a preliminary Dutch and Canadian request for the court to impose orders — known as provisional measures — on Syria to halt torture immediately to protect potential victims while their case accusing Damascus of breaching the torture convention proceeds through the International Court of Justice.

"Every day counts," said Dutch government lawyer René Lefeber.

"The persistent and recurring practice of torture in Syria only serves to underscore the pressing need for the court to indicate provisional measures to manifest threats to life and bodily and psychological integrity," Lefeber said.

Syria's conflict started with peaceful protests against President Bashar Assad's government in March 2011 but quickly morphed into a full-blown civil war after the government's brutal crackdown on protesters. The



Demonstrators hold pictures of people they say disappeared in Syria outside the World Court, where preliminary hearings opened in a case in which the Netherlands and Canada are suing Syria at the International Court of Justice, or World Court, the United Nations' highest judicial organ, in The Hague, Netherlands, Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023, accusing Damascus of massive human rights violations against its own people.

tide turned in Assad's favor against rebel groups in 2015, when Russia provided key military backing to Syria, as well as Iran and the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah.

Canadian government lawyer Teresa Crockett underscored the request's urgency, saying that "Syria has systematically committed torture and subjected its population to other ill treatment on a massive scale. Since 2011, tens of thousands of have died

while in Syrian custody."
"If left unchecked, Syria will continue its violations," she

added.

As the case opened in the court's Great Hall of Justice, the 15-judge panel was faced by a row of empty white seats reserved for Syria's delegation.

"The court regrets the nonappearance of the Syrian Arab Republic," the court's president, Joan E. Donoghue said.

The head of Canada's legal team, Alan Kessel, told

judges that "Syria's decision not to participate in today's proceedings does not shield it from the court's directives."

**Associated Press** 

"We have given Syria an opportunity to be here to-day. They chose, regrettably, to be absent," Kessel told reporters outside the court. "This doesn't mean that the world is absent."

Both Canada and the Netherlands "are of the view that the Assad government must respond and stop the torture that is rampant in that country," he added.

A group of Syrians gathered outside the court ahead of the hearing, carrying photos of people they claim are victims of torture and enforced disappearance, and holding banners emblazoned with the text "End torture now!" and "Where are they."

Among them was 43-yearold Yasmen Almashan, who said she lost five brothers in Syria.

"We just asked for freedom," she said. "Assad's regime is criminal. This trial maybe (will) bring a little bit of justice."

In a written filing to the court in June, the Netherlands and Canada said torture in Syria includes "severe beatings and whippings, including with fists, electric cables, metal and wooden sticks, chains and rifle butts; administering electric shocks; burning body parts; pulling out nails and teeth; mock executions; and simulated drownings."

Lefeber highlighted another torture method known as "dulab," in which a victim is forced into an car tire and beaten, sometimes for hours. He also noted the use of sexual and genderbased violence as an instrument of torture targeting women, girls, men and boys.

## Mexico says it has rejected U.S.-funded migrant transit centers



Migrants who crossed the Rio Grande and entered the U.S. from Mexico are lined up for processing by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Sept. 23, 2023, in Eagle Pass, Texas.

**Associated Press** 

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Mexico's president said Tuesday that he rejected a U.S. request to set up migrant transit centers in Mexico.

Neighboring Guatemala has set up one such center, where migrants can apply for U.S. work and refugee visas.

But President Andrés Manuel López Obrador has so far rejected a U.S. request to set up sites in Mexico, noting he would prefer to have such centers in countries that are the sources of migration, despite the fact that a considerable number of migrants enter the United States from Mexico. López Obrador said that he would raise the subject in a meeting of Latin American leaders he will host later this month, suggesting that the countries might agree to a common plan on such sites. "We have been looking at setting up sites in Mexico, because they (the United States) have asked for it," López Obrador said.

"We have not accepted it, first we want to talk to the presidents," referring to the Oct. 22 meeting with the leaders of 11 countries that are on migration routes.

The meeting will be held in the southern Mexico city of Palenque. Among those expected to attend are Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Haiti, Cuba, Costa Rica, Panama and Belize. Migrant transit centers financed by the United States have been set up in Guatemala to receive applications from Central American citizens seeking to apply for work visas, family reunifications or refugee status. The centers are part of a larger migratory strategy aimed at reducing the large number of migrants from Latin American and the Caribbean to the United States. Eventually, applicants with scheduled appointments will be received at offices to be opened in eight places across Guatemala. The influx of migrants has caused tension between the United States and Mexico.





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## Add a visit to Ostrich Farm's Farmers Market to your calendar!

Every first Sunday of the month the Ostrich Farm organizes and facilitates the largest farmers market on the island. Everything sold during the farmers market are locally crafted, produced and grown. Locally artisans and farmers gather at the farmers market to showcase proudly their products.

You can find the best artisan bread & pastries from T2 Pan, hot sauces from Nonna, jams, cooking sauces, fresh egg and honey that comes from small beekeepers, vegetarian snacks from locally soured beans call Dubaru. Then you have the very talented local artisans that share their unique and one-of-a-kind art such as driftwood paintings, high quality jewelry, baby clothing, knitting products, ceramic mugs/cups and plates, Calabash art, organic soap and cosmetic from Bath &

Body and Eco living and so much more!

The Farmer's market is held under a large, covered area so you can shop comfortably in the shade. The restaurant in the premises serves delicious local lunches and fresh fish when available. Ice cold local beer, smoothies, fresh fruit shakes and not to be missed serves the best shaved ice on the island! And the Ostrich tours is of course offered as well.

For everybody young and old here is something to do, shop, relax and enjoy a great family outing and most of all come and support the local artisans and farmers every first Sunday of the month from 10:00 to 14:00, Matividiri 57, follow our facebookpage or Instagram @arubaostrichfarm and be notified for each upcoming farmers market

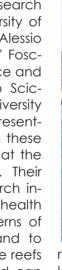


## Aruba's Bocas: home to the rarest fossil reefs on the planet!

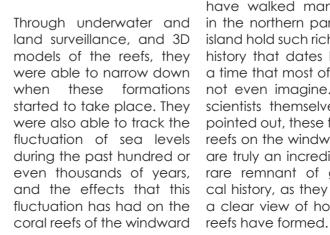
(Oranjestad)—If you've been to the northern coast of Aruba already, you've probably noticed how the ground differs entirely from the sandy beaches on the southern part of the island. These hard surfaces, with sharp bumps and holes are actually fossilized coral reefs, of which its growth and changes can be traced back to the last glacial period.

On May 30 2023, geoscientists, Dr. Patrick Boyden

from the Marum research faculty at the University of Bremen, Prof. dr. Alessio Rovere from the Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Prof. dr. Gianfranco Scicchitano, from the University of Bari Aldo Moro, presented their research on these fossilized coral reefs at the University of Aruba. Their focus for their research included studying the health and formation patterns of these coral reefs, and to investigate how these reefs have responded and can



respond to fluctuating sea levels or extreme weather, like hurricanes and tsunamis.



put things into perspective. The ground on which we have walked many times in the northern part of the island hold such rich history, history that dates back to a time that most of us cannot even imagine. As the scientists themselves have pointed out, these fossilized reefs on the windward side are truly an incredible and rare remnant of geological history, as they provide a clear view of how these

coral reefs on the island. By studying rising sea levels and climate impact on these coral reefs, we are able to take concrete action in protecting and preserving our coral reefs. So, if you are ever visiting one of the bocas or driving along the northern part of the island, please be conscious to help protect our natural historical remnant. Oh, and wear (coral-friendly) sunscreen!











## **Chogogo Tours**



Chogogo Tours takes pride in being a multiservice operator of tour & transfer vehicles for any and all purposes. Their knowledgeable team has an excellent reputation in the field of normal and disabled access transport, with a specialization in open-air and closed buses and minivans.

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port/airport transfers, and if needed, all with wheelchair access. As of September 2019, Chogogo Tours has upgraded its services for disabled or less-mobile visitors, offering rental beach wheelchairs and expanding our wheelchair-accessible tour options.

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So whether it is a transfer for your party, an Island or Beach Hopping Tour or their famous Bar Hopping Tour on one of our Party Buses, Chogogo Tours is the tour operator for you.





### **Blackstone Beach**

(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical Aruban beaches. For one, it has black sand and is covered in black smooth stones. Secondly, it lies on the northern side of the island, away from the white sandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you feel up for something different—or if it's opposite day, visit the Blackstone Beach.

Blackstone Beach shows the more natural side of Aruba: the stones that cover the beaches and the shape of it has been crafted for thousand years via volcanic eruptions, coral reef movements and wave activity of the rural northern part of the island.





Located further east to the Natural Bridge and Andicuri Beach, the Blackstone Beach is relatively easy to access. Once you get passed the Ayo Rock Formation, take the Andicuri road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park your car and take a 1km hike towards Blackstone Beach.

This beach forms part of the Arikok National Park and is therefore a site that is preserved. This is why it is also relatively untouched by commercial influences. Despite being called a beach, do note that it is not advised to swim in the water, as the current is very strong and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular view of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach and take a picture with your friends or family!



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## Aruba Tourism Authority honors loyal visitors at Divi Aruba All-Inclusive!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. This lovely couple was honored with a certificate acknowledging their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of The honorees were: Aruba.

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three honoring levels are as fol-

Distinguished Visitor (10>years con-

secutively visiting Aruba) Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba) Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba Mr. Joseph McDonald & Mrs. Susanne Carroll from Massachusetts, United States.

Ms. Kimberley Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the Divi Aruba All-Inclusive bestowed the certificate to the honorees, presented them with memorable gifts, and also thanked them for choos-

ing Aruba as their best-loved vacation destination, and as their home away from home.

Top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's warm and friendly people.
- Aruba's safety.
- Aruba's warm consistent weather all year round.
- Aruba's nice sandy beaches.
- Ease of getting here for visitors.

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".



### Ayo & Casibari: Aruba's famous rock formations

(Oranjestad)—The Ayo and terrain that consists of sev-Casibari Rock Formations are known locally as one of the crucial sites to have in your "off-road" trip itinerary. These naturally formed rock formations as just one of the few places on the island that hold a rich history of our culture and of our ancestors.

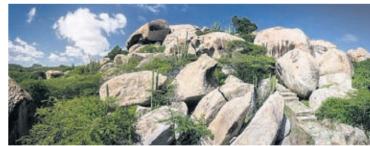
#### Ayo

The Ayo Rock Formation is located in the northern part of the island, right on the road that leads you to the Black Stone Beach, Bridge. The Ayo is a fenced er, this is just another charm

eral giant boulders, resting neatly on top of or side by side each other, adding gorgeous natural architecture to the surrounding "mondi"\*. This is also one of the few sites to contain formation site, the Casiprehistoric markings of our indigenous ancestors. The Ayo Rock formation contains stairs that lead you to the top of the highest boulder, offering a breathtaking view of the Aruban backyard. The Ayo is usually quiet, as it is situated farther away from the busier the Casibari Rock Formaand close to the Natural parts of the island. Howev-

of the site: the quiet area and the refreshing breeze offer a sense of comfort and peace. Casibari Probably the busier rock bari is situated more in the center of the island, much

closer—and more accessible—to the general public. Just like Ayo, Casibari is a fenced area containing several boulders that lay on top or lean on each other. The best aspect of tion is the accompanying view when you climb up the top of the round, flat bolder. For this position, you can see the majority of the island and the ocean in the south. Right in front of the entrance, there is the Casibari Café and Grill, a great place to get refreshments and snack before continu-



ing your off-road adven-

Both sites are open free to the public, 24 hours a day. However, unless you are taking a trip with a professional tour guide, there are no guides at the sites to help you climb the rock. So, do be careful when trudging on the boulders, and make sure to befriend any roaming goats you see along the way!

\*Mondi: what we call our Aruban wilderness. We don't have forests, or deserts, but we do have mon-











#### Article by Etnia Nativa

VhatsApp us 592 2702 and book your Aruban experience!

Etnia Nativa is close to high rise Hotels



### Ratonero, a wonder plant!

Etnia Nativa is where you can connect with the mystical aspects of Aruba, its culture, and its traditional heritage. A platform that encourages visiting participants to interact with the unique Aruban cultural environment.

During this episode, we will share valuable information about a plant known locally as \*Ratonero, or mouser if you literary translate it into English. It is classified under the name Gliricidia sempium, and it is highly appreciated by our native as well as local Arubans for its \*curative powers, especially when small children contract smallpox or measles, since it has been proven that the crude extract of its leaves has antifungal activity when applied directly to the affected areas of the skin, in addition to expectorant, sedative, and suppurative effects by relieving the process of pus formation or suppuration.

Its generic name, Gliricidia, refers to "mouse killer" in reference to the traditional use of the toxic seeds and bark of Gliricidia sepium as rodenticides. The leaves, seeds, or powdered bark are toxic to humans. When mixed with cooked rice or maize and then fermented, they are used to poison rats, mice, and other rodents. It can be applied as a general pesticide.

Gliricidia sepium is a tree native to the tropical forests of Mexico and Central America and cultivated in many tropical and subtropical regions, including the Caribbean. This tree can measure up to 15 m in height, has a medium crown, and can have a single stem or several stems. It is a tree with deep roots, and the color of its bark is grayish brown. Its rapid growth and spread make it a suitable tree to delimit spaces and fence them. In tropical areas, it is widely grown as shade for perennial crops such as tea, coffee, or cocoa. It is also used as a nurse tree for shadeloving species. Attributes that contribute to its value as a shade tree include

### Episode CCXXVII - 227

its fine, feathery foliage that provides light shade and the ability to withstand repeated pruning, provoking a vigorous resprouting.

The relationship between the flowering of Gliricidia sepium and the beginning of the rainy season in subtropical areas presents it as a promising species. Its flowers are hermaphrodites, very attractive to bees, although, depending on the weather conditions, they have a very short duration—between 24 and 48 hours. They are arranged in strikingly short inflorescences, curved upwards to stand upright, which are usually pink. Its pods, whose maturation ranges between 30 and 60 days, are very compressed and pale green or reddish pink in color when they are not ripe. When they mature, they dehiscent explosively, facilitating rapid establishment and significantly influencing seed dispersion, the direction of the seed, and wind, in addition to a possible secondary dispersion caused

In some areas of Colombia and Indonesia, where it has been introduced, they usually eat its flowers by frying them and use its leaves, which are rich in proteins, as a dietary supplement for livestock during the dry season. This has been proven to significantly improve milk and meat production.

Because it is a hard wood with a thick texture and is resistant to termites, it is used in the manufacture of furniture, posts, and various construction applications, being at the same time very good for the production of firewood and charcoal.

Gliricidia cepium is a tree capable of improving soil conditions through the organic waste that fertilizes it. It also improves soil aeration by reducing soil temperature. It is a drought-resistant species and valuable for conserving water because, in the dry season, it loses most of its leaves, thus reducing water loss through transpiration.













If you want to explore Aruba's deep heritage, Etnia Nativa is a place to connect. A private residence is a house that integrates natural and reused materials and is full of art, culture, and island heritage. Each visitor is guided through an authentic encounter with the owner-builder and cultural native expert. Book a magical look inside Etnia Nativa: WhatsApp +297 592 2702 etnianativa03@gmail.com



## Fruit Loose & Veggie Boost: Aruban fruits and vegetables

Fresh fruits make a tropical holiday's picture complete. Whether you see the mangoes hanging in the trees or the fresh fruit cocktail on the side table of your pool bed, the link is there: you are in the tropics. Aruba grows her own fruits and veggies and there are some pretty out-of-space local species you may never had heard of, but really healthy and delicious.

#### Mispel

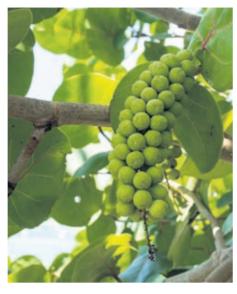
This is a fruit with a character (5-10 cm/2-4 inches). It does not ripe until it is picked or falls off the tree. Mispel is hard with a sandpaper like texture when immature, soft and juicy when ripe. It's technically a berry, but contains a skin similar to that of a kiwi. It's grainy and sweet, with a light, musky flavor. The sap or gum from the tree is also a source of 'chicle' the original ingredient used to make chewing gum. Rich in tannins, antioxidants shown to contain anti-inflammatory compounds, and vitamin C, essential for healthy immune function. Season: year-round.

#### Kenepa



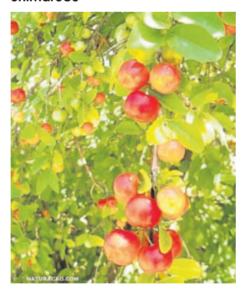
Ovoid green fruit that grows in bunches on trees up to 30m high. The fruit is related to the lychee and have tight, thin but rigid skins. Inside the skin is the tart, tangy, or sweet pulp of the fruit covering a large seed. The pulp is usually cream or orange colored. Kenepa strengthens the immune system, and prevents the reproduction of bacteria and viruses in the body. This fruit is highly recommended to treat lung infections and urinary tract infections. It also helps to cure insomnia and rejuvenates the nervous system. Season: the fruit typically ripen during the summer.

Drui



There is no chance you did not bump into one of the sea grape trees while spending your vacation on Aruba. The sea grape plant is often used in ocean-side landscaping in sandy soil right on the beach and it produces clusters of fruit that resemble grapes. Are sea grapes edible? Yes, they are. Animals enjoy sea grapes and humans can eat them as well, and they are used to make jam. They contain very low calories and sugar, enabling good bacterium to digest food and excrete waste quickly which is effective in preventing constipation. Season: Sep-Oct.

#### Shimarucu



Maybe Aruba's most popular wild fruit tree. You may have noticed cars at the side of the road and people picking those red berries. Well, that's Shimarucu. The local habit to stop for these delicious fruits goes from generation to generation. Its fruit's degree of sour depends on the amount of rain it gets. Red Shimarucus tend to taste better than orange. The fruit has super power: a true vitamin bomb. Adults only need to eat 3-4 of these berries to meet their daily recommended amount of Vitamin C. Season: Rainy months (Oct-Jan).

#### **Tamarind**



A delicious, sweet fruit that has a wide variety of uses and applications, both for medicinal and culinary purposes. It is a medium-sized bushy tree with evergreen leaves and fruit that develops in pods characterized by long, brown shells. Inside is a sticky, fleshy, juicy pulp, which is the Tamarind fruit. Both sweet and sour in taste, the fruit contains a significant level of vitamin C, as well as vitamin E, B vitamins, calcium, iron, phosphorous, potassium, manganese, and dietary fiber. There are also a number of organic compounds that make tamarind a powerful antioxidant and anti-inflammatory agent. Season: March.

When it comes to veggies the island certainly offers a home-grown selection. They taste delicious and have their specific talents to boost your immune system. Start the day with a 'batida' (smoothie) enriched with a local veggie touch or select your restaurant that offers local vegetable dishes to get the real pure taste of it.

#### Comcomber chiquito



This is a sort of local squash, but looks like a cucumber with prickly skin. The taste however is bitterer than the cucumber and the vegetable is smaller in size but bigger in width. Inside is a soft, fleshy pulp and seeds, just like the cucumber. Comcomber chiquito is grown in the island and used in salads and 'stoba' (stew) or on its own in vinegar. The veggie contains multiple B vitamins, including vitamin B1, vi-

tamin B5, and vitamin B7 (biotin). B vitamins are known to help ease feelings of anxiety and buffer some of the damaging effects of stress. Additionally this veggie is rich in two of the most basic elements needed for healthy digestion: water and fiber. Season: year-round.

#### Yambo

Family of Okra, also known as 'lady's fingers': a green flowering plant. Okra belongs to the same plant family as hibiscus and cotton. A classic favorite dish in Aruba is Sopi di yambo. It has long been favored as a food for the healthconscious. It contains potassium, vitamin B, vitamin C, folic acid, and calcium. It's low in calories and has a high dietary fiber content. Recently, a new benefit of including okra in your diet is being considered. Okra has been suggested to help manage blood sugar in cases of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. Season: year-round.

#### Bonch'i Cunucu

A long, small bean, boiled for a side dish or snack. Long beans have a chewy, crunchy texturemore so than snap beans-and a flavor reminiscent of the dry navy bean or asparagus. Besides stir-fry, soups and salads, the long bean is a good choice for stewing, braising (to remain chewy and firm), sautéing, shallow frying, and deep frying. With cooking, the long bean's bean flavor intensifies. Long beans are low in calories, about 45 calories per cup, and rich in vitamin A and also contain vitamin C and potassium. Season: year-round.

#### Pampuna



In the endless summer of Caribbean living we only have to concern ourselves with a wet season and a dry season. Still we do indulge heavily in the pleasures of pumpkin and enjoy Caribbean pumpkin recipes year round. A popular dish in Aruban restaurants is Sopa Di Pompuna, don't miss it. This dish is made of pumpkin soup, and parsley. Pumpkins are rich in flavonoid polyphenolic antioxidants such as xanthin, lutein and carotenes and also contain vitamins. Pumpkin seeds are a good source of omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins, minerals and proteins. Pumpkins are used to make desserts, breads and soups.



#### CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

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#### AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

#### 10-11 CRYPTOQUOTE

AGRCRKDZKWGA. HZVHMD

VR CR K N F E Z MPCHOR

REFQWG AF DRR KA. KN FEZM

VRICE PCHOR REFOWS AF PR

KA. — HIHEBH WECLHE

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE FIRST CONDITION OF UNDERSTANDING A FOREIGN COUNTRY IS TO SMELL IT. — RUDYARD KIPLING

## Millennial Money: 3 ways to save money in a high-cost city



Light from the setting sun reflects off the buildings in the borough of Manhattan in New York City, as seen from the Weehawken Pier in Weehawken, N.J., on Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

**Associated Press** 

#### By DALIA RAMIREZ of NerdWallet

Traditional money-saving advice may not cut it if you live in one of America's most expensive cities or urban areas. Residents of New York City, San Francisco, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and Orange County, California, amona others, are paying much more than the national average for housing, utilities, groceries, transportation, health care, and other goods and services. There is a silver lining, though: High-cost cities can come with unique opportunities to save, such as housing lotteries, discounted tickets to cultural institutions for residents, and specialty grocery stores and farmers markets.

#### STREAMLINE YOUR GRO-**CERY ROUTINE**

10-11

It can be more convenient to shop for groceries weekly at a traditional grocery store, but if you're looking to cut costs in an expensive city, it may be worth the extra effort to shop wholesale and supplement with smaller, budget-friendly trips to the local grocery store.

"Shopping at Costco has made it really stark how much of a markup I accepted on groceries," says Kyle Henson,a regional sales manager in New York who purchases food, household goods and even clothes at the wholesale store. He's even invested in the store's executive membership, which gets him and anyone who uses his card access to any Costco location and 2% cash back on purchases.

It's easier to shop wholesale if you have a car, but if you don't have a car Henson suggests taking public transit one way and a rideshare service or taxi on the way back, or even using Costco's discounted rental car service to make the trip.

"I'll go to Costco with a couple of friends, completely load up and then split everything," says Vishal Vaidya, a cook in New York. Vaidya doesn't have his own membership, but he can use Costco gift cards to shop in-store as a nonmember.

For non-bulk items such as fresh produce and meat, Vaidya adds small grocery

trips to his daily routine. He shops at places he knows have good deals on specific items. If he's passing through a neighborhood with Halal butchers, for example, he'll pick up a cut of meat; when out on the weekends, he'll stop by a farmers market on his way home. "I've integrated these habits into my lifestyle," Vaidya explains. Because he mostly cooks at home, he says that groceries are the primary way he saves money and that being frugal about food allows him to be more flexible in other areas of his life.

#### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF LO-**CAL DISCOUNTS**

Living in a big city may come with higher rent and food costs, but it can also come with access to great cultural institutions. Museums, movies and shows can be pricey, but city residents can sometimes secure free or discounted tickets. In many cities, popular museums offer free entry for residents on certain days of the week, and some even have monthly free days for all visitors. For institutions that don't advertise free admission, programs such as Culture Pass in New York and Discover & Go in Los Angeles give library card holders access to free and discounted tickets to museums and cultural centers.

"I assumed most cultural institutions would be free in New York, and I was very disappointed to find out that they weren't," Vaidya says. Museums were a big draw for him when moving to the city, and he quickly signed up for a library card and Culture Pass access. He sets a monthly reminder to reserve his tickets and uses the website to discover lesser-known gardens, galleries and shows.

PLAY THE HOUSING LOTTERY Rent is typically the biggest expense for residents of cities with a high cost of living. However, there are affordable-housing lottery programs in many major cities, which can ease the financial burden.



# Major Navigator CO2 pipeline project is on hold while the company reevaluates the route in 5 states



A sign reading "No CO2, no eminent domain" stands along a rural road east of Bismarck, N.D., on Aug. 15, 2023.

**Associated Press** 

## By JOSH FUNK AP Business Writer OMAHA Neb (AP)

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Navigator CO2 Ventures announced Tuesday that it is putting on hold one of the two biggest proposed carbon dioxide pipeline projects in the Midwest so it can reassess the project. The company withdrew its application for a key permit in Illinois and said it it was putting all its permit applications on hold. The decision comes after South Dakota regulators last month denied a permit.

The proposed 1,300-mile (2,092-kilometer) project would carry planet-warming carbon dioxide emissions from more than 20 industrial plants across South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota and Illinois. The Illinois permit is crucial because that's where the

Downtown

company planned to store the carbon dioxide underground.

"As is consistent with our recent filings in neighboring jurisdictions, Navigator will be taking time to reassess the route and application," the company said in a statement.

Navigator said it is not abandoning the project. It plans to reapply for permits where appropriate after completing its evaluation. Opponents cheered the news that the project is being put on hold, and promised to keep fighting when the company reapplies. Opponents had organized landowners who were concerned about the project. "When you organize the families most at-risk of eminent domain, you can stop a pipeline," said Jane Kleeb with the Nebraska-based

Bold Alliance that also fought against the ill-fated Keystone XL oil pipeline.

"This is a core lesson we have learned over the years, as pipeline corporations try to bully hard-working Americans into giving up their land for corporate greed."

Proposed pipelines in the region would use carbon capture technology that supporters believe would combat climate change. Opponents question its effectiveness at scale and the need for potentially huge investments over cheaper renewable energy sources.

New federal tax incentives and billions of dollars from Congress toward carbon capture efforts have made such projects lucrative.

Summit Carbon Solutions is behind the biggest proposed carbon dioxide pipeline in the area.

It is pressing forward with its plans despite regulatory



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they get on a stage and

the laughter comes, if you

don't play up on their level,

you're going to disappear." Cristalli said Grammer slow-

## 'Frasier' returns to TV but you don't need to be a superfan of the original to laugh at its jokes

#### By ALICIA RANCILIO **Associated Press**

You could say Joe Cristalli tweeted his role as an executive producer and coshowrunner on the new " Frasier " sitcom into existence.

About 10 years ago as a fledaling TV writer and "Frasier" super fan, Cristalli started a Twitter account with "random jokes" about the show and character made famous by Kelsey Grammer in the sitcoms "Cheers" and "Frasier."

"It was stupid and nobody cared about it. I think I had maybe 3,000 followers at its height," he recalled in a recent interview.

At this point, "Frasier" had been off the air for 10 years, but Cristalli used it as "an outlet to practice writing because I was such a super fan and I just loved the style of joke-telling, so I would work on it."

A few years later, Cristalli read that Grammer was interested in reviving the character. He had his agent send a sample script and examples from his "Frasier"-centric Twitter feed to Grammer's team. He was eventually hired alongside "How I Met Your Mother" writer Chris Harris to be co-showrunners of a new "Frasier" series, debuting Oct. 12 on Paramount+. This "Frasier" stars Grammer in the title role of the highbrow psychiatrist, as he moves back to Boston. His son Freddy is now grown, working as a firefighter, and Frasier realizes he needs to prioritize their relationship (much in the way the character set out to connect with his retired police officer father, played by John Mahoney, in the original). He also begins a new ca-

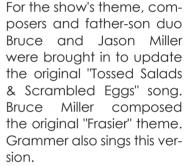
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Writing for the character is a fun challenge, said Harris, because "when you think of Frasier Crane speaking, catch them, great, but who worked with Grammer we're not hanging everything on those jokes. I love (the references) ... but Chris makes a very good point. We want other people to cause he didn't have to

on both "Cheers" and "Frasier," signed on to direct two episodes.

"It's such a comfort be-

ly morphs into the character. "In the first rehearsal day, he'll be in like, a T-shirt and shorts and it's like, 'Hold on. That's not. Who's that? That's not Frasier.' The next day he's got, you know, longer pants and the next day it's a blazer, and then all of a sudden it's like, 'Oh, wait a second, I see him now," Cristalli said. "There's a very clear distinction between Frasier and Kelsey Grammer, but he slips into those shoes real comfortably and it's very seamless."



The composers first did a "hipper" version "that had movement to it, and energy," Bruce Miller said. Grammer listened and suggested the sound reflect how the character is older now, and looking for calmness at this stage in his life. They went back and used a small band, which is the version that viewers will hear.

This "Frasier" also has a bar, but it's not THE bar made famous in "Cheers." Its name, Mahoney's, is a tribute to John Mahoney, who died in 2018. Just as the Martin character was different than his sons, this set captures that juxtaposition. It's conceived as a place where both firefighters and academics gather.

"It's an older bar, something you would find near Cambridge," said set director Glenda Rovello.

"There's a sweet line where Frasier is in Mahoney's and remarks, 'I may have spent too much time in a particular bar,' which I made sure the boys kept because it was a wonderful tribute," Burrows said.



This image released by Paramount+ shows Kelsey Grammer as Frasier Crane, left, Jess Salgueiro as Eve, center, and Jack Cutmore-Scott as Freddy in a scene from "Frasier."

**Associated Press** 

you think of flowery language." Because of time constraints, every line can't be in Frasier-speak. "We save those moments for certain times," said Harris.

They also reference the original series sparingly and smartly — which is an act of restraint that Cristalli said Harris helped him to understand.

"I put in a very specific reference to something in ('Frasier') season four, and I remember Chris very gently saying, 'Do you think maybe we should do jokes that everyone will laugh at?"

"There are analogies and callbacks to the old show, but we try not to do any of them shamelessly," Cristalli said. "We're not going to just throw a recliner or a Jack Russell in, like we're trying to do them subtly and elegantly. So if you

like this show besides me." The show is a throwback in that it's a multi-cam comedy taped in front of a live audience. Most comedies these days are single-cam and filmed without an au-

Harris hopes the show is a success and provides a much-needed boost for the multi-cam format.

"I will say that nothing feels as much like showbiz as a tape night," said Harris. "There's a working-withouta-net kind of feeling and you really are putting all your work and all your creativity out there for people to judge. You don't know something works until you get that immediate response, but that immediate response is awesome."

Famed sitcom director James Burrows ("Taxi," "Friends," "Will & Grace"),

do the show," said Cristalli. "He didn't have to help out. But he read the scripts, he was in the auditioning process, he was pitching jokes and genuinely laughing and enjoying himself. It just made everybody more relaxed because it's a lot of pressure to bring back something this iconic."

Burrows shared his advice to the new actors on "Frasier" (including Jack Cutmore-Scott as Freddy and Anders Keith as David, Frasier's nephew and the son of Niles and Daphne).

"What I tell them is, 'When we rehearse, Kelsey is at 50%. When he's in front of an audience, he's at 100% and you better be on that level otherwise you'll get blown away.' That's what I used to tell quest stars on 'Cheers.' ... 'They're marking time in rehearsal. When



## The art of the chirp: NHL players on what makes a good trash-talker, just in time for the season

TORONTO (AP) — Nazem Kadri has been involved in more than a few verbal sparring matches and the Calgary forward certainly knows how to dish it out during any on-ice war of words.

"I've had my fair share," he told the Canadian Press. "You just gotta be on your toes. You just gotta be clever. Sometimes someone will say something and you'll be like, 'Oh, that was pretty good.' It definitely makes things interesting."

But what makes a good trash-talker? Is it doing a deep dive into an opponent's past in search of that stinging nugget of information? Or a heat-of-the-moment zinger?

"Guys who are just quick and witty," Carolina forward Seth Jarvis said. "I trip over my words and nothing good comes out. It's fun listening to guys that are almost like a smartass ... stuff that comes out naturally." Winnipeg defenseman Josh Morrissey said oppo-

nents with knowledge of a



Seattle Kraken's John Hayden (15) and Vancouver Canucks' Tyler Myers (57) fight during the first period of a preseason NHL hockey game Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023, in Abbotsford, British Columbia.

**Associated Press** 

Montreal winger Cole Caufield said it's "scary" how some players will go down an internet rabbit hole to gather dirt. New Jersey Devils center Jack Hughes said the hockey world is a small one, which adds to

potential material. "I'm not a big researcher," Toronto tough guy Ryan Reaves said. "Like it off the cuff."

NHL players also know they have to be careful in an era where microphones are positioned around the rink — and even on players themselves. High-definition television cameras also mean fans can become amateur lip readers.

There was an example last season when Anaheim forward Trevor Zegras and then-Arizona defenseman Troy Stecher got into a war of words that morphed into rumors on social media.

"Things can always be misconstrued ... it wasn't accurate," Ducks winger Troy Terry said. "It was a lesson where if you're in the spotlight, those things can happen." Morrissey said that rule also applies out of the spotlight.

"At the rink or away from the rink, there's always someone with a phone," he said. "And sometimes disingenuously trying to put you in a tough position."

players' career or an embarrassing moment are the ones that sting.

"They have got a book," he said. "They're ready to go." He added the confidence and skill to try to get someone off their game by talk-

ing trashisn't in everyone's arsenal.

"The best guys are willing to back it up," he said. "I'm definitely not a chirper, but the guys that do ... there's some pretty charismatic guys in our league."

# Barry Melrose retiring as ESPN's longtime hockey analyst after

## By JOHN WAWROW AP Hockey Writer

Former NHL player and coach Barry Melrose is stepping away from his career as one of hockey's most recognized analysts after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, ESPN announced on Tuesday.

The news of Melrose's illness and retirement was made on ESPN's SportsCenter on the same day the NHL 2023-24 season opened with a three-game slate.

"I've had over 50 extraordinary years playing, coaching and analyzing the world's greatest game, hockey. It's now time to hang up my skates and focus on my health, my family, including my supportive wife Cindy, and whatever comes next," Melrose said in a statement released by the network.

"I'm beyond grateful for my hockey career, and to have called ESPN home for almost 30 years," he added. "Thanks for the incredible memories, and I'll now be cheering for you from the stands."

"Barry's gigantic personality and trademark style have made our game bigger, more exciting and more entertaining." ESPN chairman Jimmy Pitaro congratulated Melrose for his "exceptional contributions"

Parkinson's disease diagnosis

The 67-year-old Melrose's journeyman playing career as a hard-nosed defenseman led to a brief coaching career — which included a Stanley Cup Final appearance — before he became one of the game's top broadcasters. Melrose had a relatable everyman's broadcasting style, bringing a sense of humor to his insights, and was easily recognized by his goatee and slicked-backed hair.

"Barry is a unique, one-ofa-kind person. And hockey on ESPN won't be the same without him," NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said.

and trademark style have made our game bigger, more exciting and more entertaining." ESPN chairman Jimmy Pitaro congratulated Melrose for his "exceptional contributions to hockey on ESPN," and wished him and his family the best. "Barry has had a connection to the sport for an astonishing 50 years as a player, coach and analyst, and he has left an indelible mark both on and off the ice," Pitaro said.

From rural Kelvington, Saskatchewan, the cousin of former Toronto star Wendel Clark, broke into pro hockey with the Cincinnati Stingers of the now-defunct World Hockey Association in 1976. He played three seasons in Cincinnati and, following the WHA's demise, made the transition



Former Los Angeles Kings coach Barry Melrose speaks to fans as he is honored prior to an NHL hockey game between the Kings and the Calgary Flames, Thursday, Feb. 12, 2015, in Los Angeles. Associated Press

to the NHL with Winnipeg in 1979. He went on to play for Toronto and Detroit, where he closed his career following the 1985-86 season.

Overall, he finished with 10 goals and 33 points and 728 penalty minutes in 300 NHL career games. His

WHA totals were five goals and 32 points and 343 penalty minutes in 178 games with Cincinnati.

Melrose turned to coaching and led the Adirondack Red Wings to win the American Hockey League Calder Cup in 1992.



## Steve Stricker is having a record year with seniors. Now he's contemplating the PGA Tour

By DOUG FERGUSON **AP Golf Writer** JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) —

The voice still cracks and Steve Stricker fights to hold back the tears, a sure sign winning isn't getting old. If anything, it's making the 56-year-old Stricker feel young.

That's why his remarkable, record-setting year on the PGA Tour Champions has Stricker thinking about playing more on the PGA Tour next year.

"I don't know if it will work," Stricker said at the Constellation Furyk & Friends. "That's what the fun part is — the challenge of playing with the best in the world." The temptation comes from beating the best his age with alarming regularity.

His performance last week at Timuquana Country Club — shabby by his 2023 standards — was to be expected. Stricker had spent the previous week at Marco Simone as an assistant captain in the Ryder Cup, didn't touch a club in Rome and tied for 15th. It was the first time since August 2022 he finished out of the top 10.

And even that doesn't fully illustrate his year. Stricker has six wins and five runner-up finishes in 16 tournaments, meaning he has been first or second in 69% of his starts. Three of those wins were at majors. At the other major he played, the U.S. Senior Open, he was runner-up.

He already has set the PGA Tour Champions earnings record — currently \$3,986,063 — and he is a lock to become the first senior player to surpass \$4 million in a year.

So enormous is his lead in the Charles Schwab Cup that only five players have a mathematical chance to catch him. For most of them, they would have to win all three playoff events. Stricker probably doesn't even have to play again, but he will.

"This has been a goal of mine," he said of winning the Schwab Cup. "I've wanted to win this and I've



Steve Stricker celebrates with the trophy after winning a Champions Tour golf tournament, Sunday, May 14, 2023, in Hoover, Ala. **Associated Press** 

to play well."

And then?

The next mountain to climb would be the one he already left behind. The courses on the PGA Tour Champions aren't as long and the competition isn't nearly as strong. Winning with regularity on any tour can make it seem as though the game is as good as ever.

Stricker knows better.

"All of our abilities tend to deteriorate over time," he said. "The older we get, I'm not hitting it as far, probably not as good a putter or chipper as I was when I was playing full-time."

The other side to him wants a challenge. And each win makes the temptation That's the question." that much stronger to play Stricker hasn't played on against the best, flat bellies half his age. There's only one way to find out.

"If it takes a couple of tournaments and I play horribly, that may be it," Stricker said.

"But if I play a couple of tournaments and play de-

put every effort into trying cent, or play well in one or two of them? I had a chance to win Phoenix two or three years ago."

> He played that final round of the 2021 Phoenix Open with Brooks Koepka, who chipped in for eagle on the 17th hole and wound up winning. Stricker finished two shots behind in a tie for fourth on a TPC Scottsdale course that didn't particularly suit him except for nice

"As we get older, we get a little smarter, too — work smarter and work our way around the course a little bit smarter than you did when you were younger," he said. "I think I still hit it straight enough. I don't know about long enough.

the PGA Tour since the 3M Open in the summer of 2021, back when he was Ryder Cup captain and wanted a close look at players who might be on his team in what turned out to be a 19-9 romp over Europe.

And then came a mysterious illness right after the Ryder Cup, causing his white blood cell count to spike, his liver count to plunge and inflammation around his heart that caused it to pump out of rhythm. He lost 25 pounds and was hospitalized for two weeks.

Out of golf for six months, he returned to win four times in 12 starts before heading off to the woods with his bow. Stricker can hear the woods calling now. He also knows it would be a bad look to win the Schwab Cup without competing in the playoffs. He plans to play at least one postseason event, probably two.

Mike Weir has wondered how Stricker would fare on the PGA Tour because of his short game, long considered among the best in golf. Weir couldn't think of many comparisons.

"Jordan Spieth comes to mind, as good as he is around the greens," Weir said. "But Strick has had an incredible year."

Stricker plans to ask for an

exemption to the Sony Open on Oahu in January, a week before the PGA Tour Champions opens its year on the Big Island. He already is in The Players Championship and the PGA Championship from winning the senior version of those majors.

After that, it's a matter of finding the right fit at the right courses and see where it takes him, or perhaps see how long it lasts. "It's just a great time to be part of the PGA Tour," he

But then he smiled and leaned on the cart he used for the pro-am at Timuquana and said, "This lifestyle out here is pretty good, too."

said.

He typically shows up on Wednesday, plays the pro-am on Thursday and 54 holes later is headed home, often with a trophy. The PGA Tour would require more time, more practice, more work. Is a 56-year-old body up for that?

Stricker doesn't see the harm in finding out.